

CITY OF BELLEVUE
CITY COUNCIL

Summary Minutes of Special Meeting

January 29, 2001
6:00 p.m.

Council Conference Room
Bellevue, Washington

PRESENT: Mayor Mosher, Deputy Mayor Marshall, Councilmembers Creighton, Davidson, Degginger, Lee, and Noble

ABSENT: None

Issaquah Representatives

Ava Frisinger, Mayor
Fred Kempe, Council President
Fred Butler, Councilmember
Bill Conley, Councilmember
Joe Forkner, Councilmember
Scott Greenberg, Councilmember
Russell Joe, Councilmember
David Kappler, Councilmember
Leon Kos, City Administrator

1. Joint Meeting to Discuss City Council and Councilmember Priorities and Interests

Mayor Mosher called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. He commented on the rapid growth in the region and the need to address regional issues with neighboring jurisdictions.

Mayor Frisinger noted that Councilmembers from Bellevue and Issaquah have worked together in the past to discuss regional water and transportation issues. She suggested the Councils review areas in which they are currently working together and listed the following:

ARCH – A Regional Coalition for Housing
EPSCA – Eastside Public Safety Communications Association
Fire dispatch services

Medic I

East King County Convention and Visitors Bureau

Regional water coordination and participation in the Cascade Water Alliance

ETP – Eastside Transportation Partnership

Jail services agreement

I-90 Corridor Study

Water Resource Inventory Area 8 participation, Lake Sammamish Watershed Forum, Cedar-

Lake Washington-Sammamish Basin Forum, Lake Sammamish Basin Plan

E-gov project

Councilmembers introduced themselves and provided brief background information. Council President Kempe is serving his eighth year on the Council and participated on ETP for six years. Mr. Creighton has served on the Council for five years and his areas of expertise are transportation and growth management. Mr. Conley served on the Planning Policy Commission prior to his election to the City Council. His primary interests are Endangered Species Act (ESA) issues and transportation. Mr. Kempe noted that Issaquah has numerous citizens committees/commissions and all Councilmembers have served on these committees. Mr. Conley is Chair of the Major Development and Regional Affairs Committee.

Mr. Degginger has served on the Council for one year and previously served on the Planning Commission for seven years. His primary interests are land use, water, and economic development. Mr. Greenberg has been on the Council for one year and previously served on the Planning Policy Commission. He is a city planner employed by the City of Burien and his interests are land use, growth management, transportation, and environmental issues. He chairs Issaquah's Land Use Committee. Mr. Noble served two terms on the Transportation Commission prior to his election to the Council. His primary interests are transportation and growth management.

Mr. Kos is Issaquah City Administrator and President of the East King County Convention and Visitors Bureau. Steve Sarkozy, Bellevue City Manager, is new to the area and looks forward to working with the Bellevue and Issaquah Councils. Mr. Kappler is serving his third term on the Council. His areas of interest are land use and open space/parks. Last year he chaired the Eastside Fire and Rescue Board of Directors. He currently chairs the Utilities Commission and is a member of the Land Use Committee.

Mr. Joe has served on the Council for one year and previously served on the Planning Policy Commission. He is a prosecutor for three Eastside cities and is interested in public safety issues, human services, parks, and economic development. Mr. Lee is serving his eighth year on the Council and previously served on the Transportation Commission. He serves on the King County Economic Development Council and the King County Human Services Roundtable. Areas of interest include economic development, school issues, and transportation. Mr. Forkner was appointed to the Council in August and has worked in city utilities for approximately 18 years. He serves on the Utilities Commission and previously participated on the Development Commission and Cable Commission.

Dr. Davidson has served on the Council for 14 of the past 18 years. His interests are water supply and utility issues. Mr. Butler has served on the Council for one year and previously was Chair of Issaquah's Urban Village Development Commission. He has served on the Planning Policy Commission and is interested in transportation issues, senior citizen issues, and elderly care. He currently chairs the Services Committee and is a member of the Major Development and Regional Affairs Committee.

Deputy Mayor Marshall serves on ETP and transportation planning committees for I-90, SR 520 (Trans-Lake Washington Study), and I-405. She is involved in growth management and neighborhood issues as well. Mayor Frisinger served on the Issaquah Council for 10 years and the Planning Commission for five years. She is serving her fourth year as mayor. Primary interests are land use and environmental issues. Ms. Frisinger previously served on the Eastside Human Services Forum with Nan Campbell, who was at that time Bellevue's mayor. Mayor Mosher has served on the Council for five years and previously served on the Planning Commission. Areas of expertise include water issues/Cascade Water Alliance, environmental issues, Endangered Species Act issues, and pipeline safety.

Referring to the list of areas in which Bellevue and Issaquah are engaged in cooperative efforts, Mr. Mosher asked for additional items. The group added the following to the list: regional transit, parks and recreation, and the Mountains to Sound Greenway.

In response to Mr. Noble, Mr. Kos described the relationship between the City of Issaquah and the Issaquah School District. The City schedules and maintains some of the District's sports fields, and school buildings are used for City parks and recreation classes. Mr. Conley noted the recent implementation of a School Resource Officer program in Issaquah schools. Mayor Mosher described Bellevue's field improvement program with the Bellevue School District, which now provides greater access to sports fields.

Mayor Mosher suggested the group identify issues that merit further discussion and possible joint action in the future. The following items were noted:

West Lake Sammamish Parkway – Councilmembers expressed an interest in improving the connection between Bellevue and Issaquah.

Human Services Roundtable evolution – Mr. Joe suggested the establishment of an alliance to address Eastside human services. Mr. Lee encouraged regional policy planning for human services and cooperative lobbying efforts with the state legislature.

Coordination between ETP, SKTBD (South King County Transportation Board), and Sea-Shore (a north King County group) on regional transportation priorities – Mr. Kempe encouraged enhanced coordination between ETP, SKTBD, and Sea-Shore on regional transportation planning. Mrs. Marshall concurred with this suggestion.

Water supply – Mr. Kempe said water is a major issue for Issaquah right now. However once the Issaquah pipeline to be connected to Bellevue's water system is completed, the supply will improve somewhat.

Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) program – Mr. Greenberg said Issaquah completed the first transfer of development rights in King County approximately a year ago. Some of the density that could have been developed in the Mitchell Hill area was transferred to the Issaquah Highlands project via an Interlocal Agreement between King County and Issaquah. Mr. Greenberg would like to see a similar transfer of development rights between cities.

Sound Transit Phase II – Mrs. Marshall said ETP is just beginning to discuss the Eastside's priorities for Sound Transit Phase II. Sound Transit staff will attend the next ETP meeting.

I-90 Park and Ride capacity enhancements – Mrs. Marshall encouraged increased Park and Ride capacity in conjunction with the I-90 Corridor Study improvements. She thanked Issaquah for its support of two-way HOV (high-occupancy vehicle) lanes on I-90. She would like to see a continuous HOV system connecting all major highways and interchanges. Mr. Conley and Mr. Kempe agreed with the need for increased Park and Ride capacity.

Local transit service – Mr. Lee stated Bellevue's interest in establishing a local circulator system, and Mr. Kempe said Issaquah shares this interest.

I-90 bridge two-way transit and HOV lanes completion – Mayor Mosher is pleased that Bellevue and Issaquah both support the addition of an extra lane on I-90.

Neighborhood programs – Mr. Degginger commented on Bellevue's efforts to protect neighborhoods from cut-through traffic as well as a new initiative to foster neighborhood identities. He described Bellevue's neighborhood outreach programs, including two neighborhood networks. Mrs. Marshall said homeowner and community associations are active in Bellevue. The City's Neighborhood Liaison Program also provides a mechanism for communication between residents and staff. Mayor Mosher described the Neighborhood Enhancement Program which funds small capital projects desired by residents. Mr. Kempe said some Issaquah neighborhoods are developing homeowner associations.

Expansion of SR 900 (Issaquah-Renton Road) – Mr. Kempe said beginning in 2002, Issaquah will expand SR 900 from four lanes to eight lanes in some areas. Developers will be contributing to this project.

Joint transportation planning similar to Bellevue Redmond Overlake Transportation Study (BROTS) process – Mayor Mosher noted Bellevue's work with Redmond on transportation issues and the development of an interlocal agreement to complete needed projects. Mr. Lee described a trip reduction program associated with the BROTS agreement to encourage increased vanpools in the Overlake area. Mr. Butler noted Issaquah's similar cooperative efforts on other issues through interlocal agreements with the City of Sammamish and King County.

Communications with federal and state representatives – Mr. Lee encouraged jurisdictions to work together to address priorities with the federal and state governments. Mayor Mosher sees value in the development of regional interest statements on specific issues and projects.

Disaster response coordination and recovery planning – Mr. Kempe encouraged greater coordination between jurisdictions and agencies in the area of emergency preparedness and disaster response. Mrs. Marshall said the Council recently funded recovery planning activities for Bellevue. Mayor Frisinger said the King County Regional Policy Committee, on which she serves, has discussed the need for jurisdictions to coordinate countywide emergency planning.

Mayor Mosher thanked everyone for their participation and declared the meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Myrna L. Basich
City Clerk

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